

Secret	
	25X1

The Kirov Association Designer of Soviet Battle TanksProspects for the 1990s

25X1

A Research Paper

Secret

SW 84-10101DS IA 84-10082DS December 1984

E 502

•		0	•	
	SECRET	(3)	•	
			•	25 X 1
•	,			
The Kirov Association: De Prospects for the 1990s	signer of	Soviet Ba	attie Tanks	25 X 1
Key Judgments				
Information available in this report.	e as of l	September	: 1984 was useā	
Soviet battle tanks the USSRa group that we probably consists of a ta production tooling design tank prototype production four facilities located a components. In addition, modern tank plant in Gore prototypes. When finished take over from the Lening indicates a continued Sov that can be expected to a	call the ank design organiza plant in elsewhere the Kirovelovo to as a plant in around prad plant viet commission commission.	Kirov Ass institute tion, both Leningrad that devel Associatisemble nelegations. This continues to the continues to the continues of the conti	sociation. It and a in Gorelovo, a d, and as many as lop and test tank lon is building a low tank new plant will astruction and development	S K
The Kirov Association time. It can modernize at simultaneously, however, design. After it has designed over the form of the fo	least two in addition addition addition and its series ar plants of the complements of th	o existing on to its tested a to production will manuf Chelyabins ted and traction, K	tank models new tank model ank prototype in on of the tank facture it sk. When a tansferred to a dirov is	n 25X1
About 12 or 13 years new battle tank in the US bring it through full-sca Gorelovo and another five series production model a about five years to design for instance the new gastaken longer to develop be frequently during develop design the T-80, and another into series production.	SSRrough ale engined or six you at a manufa yn the T-73 turbined, because the oment. Kird	ly six or ering deverants to concert to conc	seven years to elopment at onvert it into a plant. It took at some tanks, iring T-80, have teens failed ed eight years to	

We believe that the Kirov Association is well along in designing its new main battle tank of the 1990s. Military requirements to develop this tank—which may have a small

SECRET

Page 1

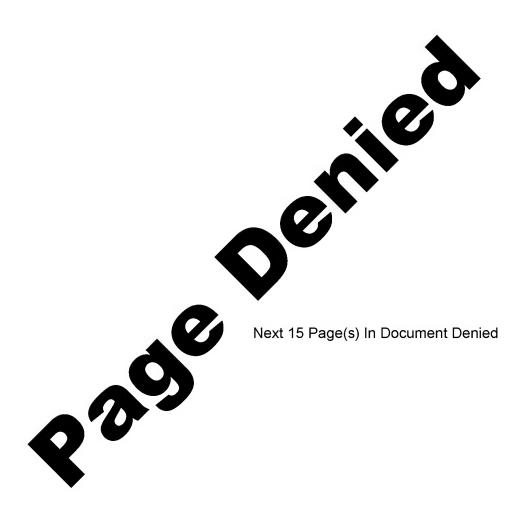
SECRET	

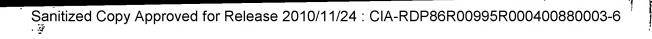
25X1

turret or be turretless--were probably issued to the Kirov Association about 1980. Kirov probably has a full-scale mockup or a prototype assembled in 1984, but we are not sure whether it has obtained final approval of its design from the Soviet military. Should the design be approved any time soon, we would expect the Kirov Association to begin prototype production in 1985. Subsequent testing done on schedule at a manufacturing plant such as Nizhniy Tagil would normally lead to series production and deployment of the new tank in the early 1990s.

25X1

SECRET





Secret

Secret